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Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion

The rule of law at the national and international levels

Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 6 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in connection with the Fifteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America — Peoples' Trade Agreement, held on 5 March 2018 in Caracas, to draw your attention to the Declaration adopted at the Summit, which can be consulted at http://mppre.gob.ve/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2018/03/ENG_Declaracion-ALBA-TCP.pdf.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 31, 84 and 120.

(*Signed*) Samuel **Moncada**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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United Nations A/72/798–S/2018/232

General Assembly
Security Council

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26 March 2018

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General Assembly
Seventy-second session
Agenda item 34 (a)
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Letter dated 16 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (see annex I) on its address to the international community in regard to the organization of illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol — as well as a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (see annex II) on the decision of the occupation administration to organize illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation in the aforementioned temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annexes distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34 (a), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

18-04732 (E) 020418

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Annex I to the letter dated 16 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

On Address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the international community in regard of organization of illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is hereby resolves:

1. Recognize that intention of the Russian Federation and the occupying administration to illegally hold elections of the President of the Russian Federation on 18 March 2018 at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol — is a flagrant violation of the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, well-recognized principles and norms of international law, including, the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act of 1975, Memorandum on Security Assurances in connection with Ukraine's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1994, as well as UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 "Territorial integrity of Ukraine" of 27 March 2014, other international legal acts, as well as numerous bi- and multilateral treaties that both Ukraine and the Russian Federation are parties thereto.

2. Ratify the Address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the international community in regard of organization of illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (attached hereto).

3. Order that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expeditiously conveys the text of the Address to the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations, international organizations, parliamentary assemblies, parliaments and governments of the UN member states.

4. This Resolution comes into effect from the date of its adoption.

A. Parubiy
Head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
City of Kyiv
1 March 2018
No 2310-VIII

Attachment

Address of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the international community in regard of organization of illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol

On 20 February 2014, the Russian Federation launched a number of aggressive actions against Ukraine that within a week amounted to direct military invasion and temporary occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, that are integral parts of the sovereign territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

On 18 March 2014, the President of the Russian Federation signed an illegitimate act on illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

Throughout the last for years the Russian Federation is committing war crimes and crimes against humanity against civilian population of the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine, including, murders, tortures, abductions, forced displacements, deportations of civil population, ethnic discrimination, coercion to join armed forces of the Russian Federation and crimes against private property.

The Russian Federation wages repressions against civilian population at the temporary occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, as well as at certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, that include numerous arbitrary arrests, abductions, murders and forced displacements.

Non-recognition of legitimacy, condemnation of action of the Russian aggressor, and demand to restore the territorial integrity of Ukraine are reflected in resolutions of the UN General Assembly, in particular in resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 titled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", resolution 71/205 of 19 December 2016 and resolution 72/190 of 19 December 2017 both titled "Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine".

The consolidated position of the international community regarding the illegality of occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and recognition of the Russian Federation as the aggressor state is also confirmed by numerous resolutions of the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union, NATO, other international institutions, as well as by resolutions of foreign governments.

While continuing to blatantly violate the UN Charter, well-recognized principles and norms of international law, the Russian occupation authority intends to hold elections of the President of the Russian Federation on 18 March 2018 at the temporary occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

18 March was chosen intentionally as the date of the elections. It proves yet again how cynic, revanchist, and aggressive the policy of the Kremlin is.

We recognize that such intention is a violation of sovereignty of Ukraine, international treaties between Ukraine and the Russian Federation that confirm sovereignty, territorial integrity, and state borders between Ukraine and the Russian Federation, and are a cognizant provocation aimed at the international community, primarily, to the states signatories to the Memorandum on Security Assurances in

connection with Ukraine's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 5 December 1994.

Organization of so-called "elections" of the President of the Russian Federation at the occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol is yet another effort to legitimize an attempt to illegal annexation. Its outcome shall not entail any legal consequences and shall not be recognized by Ukraine and by the international community.

In light of the above mentioned we welcome decisions of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and of the European Union monitoring mission to not participate in observation of illegal elections in the occupied Crimea.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine calls on the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union, NATO, other international organizations, parliamentary assemblies, parliaments and government of foreign states to the following actions:

1. Utilize all possible means to prevent the government of the Russian Federation and the occupation authority from holding elections at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

2. Should elections at the temporary occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol held, condemn it, withhold from dispatching monitors to the region in both national and international groups, and outline the fact of illegitimate voting at the temporary occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol that substantially distorts the overall outcome of the elections within the Russian Federation in reports of the monitoring missions, including those dispatched under the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE mandate.

3. Condemn the violation of Ukraine's sovereignty, human rights and freedoms at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine committed by the Russian Federation and the occupation authority.

4. Impose additional sanctions against the Russian Federation, including individual sanctions (penalties) against persons involved in:

organization of illegal voting at the temporary occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol during the 2016 elections to the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and 2018 elections of the President of the Russian Federation;

systematic violations of human rights at the temporary occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol

5. Enhance joint effort to persuade the Russian Federation to comply with the Order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2016 in case of the Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation) with regard to protection of human rights at the temporary occupied territories.

6. Consolidate pressure on the Russian Federation aimed at introduction of permanent and direct international monitoring of situation in the Crimea by the conventional bodies and institutions of the United Nations, Council of Europe, OSCE, and other international organizations, as well as introduction of control over

adherence of the Russian Federation to its obligations as the Occupying Power under the international humanitarian law.

7. Withhold from receiving state and working visits of the President of the Russian Federation elected as a result of illegal elections at the temporary occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol that are integral part of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Withhold from accepting invitations to conduct state and working visits to the Russian Federation addressed to presidents, heads of governments and members of parliaments of the UN member states.

Annex II to the letter dated 16 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the decision of the occupation administration to organize illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine strongly condemns the decision of the occupation administration to hold on 18 March 2018 illegal elections of the President of the Russian Federation at the temporary occupied territories of Ukraine — the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

The organization and conduct of illegal vote in the temporarily occupied part of the territory of Ukraine is yet another step in the implementation of the Kremlin's strategy to legitimize the consequences of aggression against Ukraine. It flagrantly violates fundamental principles and norms of international law, obligations of the Russian Federation under international treaties to which both Ukraine and Russia are parties, legislation of Ukraine as well as contradicts the UN Charter, UN GA Resolutions 68/262 of 27 March 2014 "Territorial Integrity of Ukraine" and 71/205 of 19 December 2016, 72/190 of 19 December 2017 "Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine", Helsinki Final Act of 1 August 1975.

The outcome of the illegal voting will be null and void from the legal point of view, will entail any legal consequences and will not be recognized by Ukraine or international community. All involved in the preparation and conduct of illegal elections on the territory of temporarily occupied Crimea will be liable to prosecution in accordance with the national legislation of Ukraine.

Furthermore, illegal voting on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine will distorts the elections results in the Russian Federation in general and will put under serious question their legitimacy.

Ukraine welcomes the decision of OSCE ODHIR and other international partners not to participate in observation of illegal election process in occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. Ukraine expects that the final report of the international mission on monitoring of the elections of the President of the Russian Federation will clearly indicate illegality of the conduct of elections on the territory of Ukrainian Crimea.

Ukraine is confident that the relevant response of the international community to a new attempt of Moscow to undermine founding principles of modern world order — sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of the borders, should provide for increase of sanction pressure on the aggressor-state, including personal targeted sanctions.

We call on our partners to resolutely condemn illegal actions of the Russian Federation in the form of organization of "elections" in the temporarily occupied Crimea and not to recognize their "results".

Ukraine resumes its categorical demand to the Russian Federation to stop military aggression against our country, to de-occupy captured territories, having withdrawn its military forces from them.

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Letter dated 19 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement by the President of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Petro Poroshenko, on the holding of the so-called elections in the temporarily occupied Crimea, Ukraine, by the occupying administration, dated 19 March 2018 (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34 (a), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

18-04736 (E) 020418

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Annex to the letter dated 19 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the President of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Petro Poroshenko, on the holding of the so-called elections in the temporarily occupied Crimea, Ukraine, by the occupying administration

19 March 2018 — 10:28

Holding of the so-called presidential elections in the temporarily occupied Crimea by the Russian occupying administration is another brutal violation of international law by Russia. This is not surprising for a country that systematically and consciously opposes itself to the outside world.

The so-called elections in Crimea are yet another evidence of the Kremlin's neglect of the fundamental documents and principles on which international peace and security have been based over the past 70 years, in particular the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act.

The results of illegal voting are null and void and will not have any legal consequences. Legitimate presidential elections in Crimea may only be the elections of the President of Ukraine.

Another attempt by the Kremlin to legitimize aggression and annexation is completely doomed to failure.

And I am grateful to our international partners for the clear and uncompromising position voiced on the eve of the unlawful elections that their results will not be recognized and that Crimea is an integral part of Ukraine.

I also praise the decision of the OSCE and our other international partners not to take part in the monitoring of illegal elections in the occupied Crimea. And I expect that the final report of the international mission will clearly indicate the illegality of the Russian elections in the territory of the Ukrainian Crimea.

I am grateful to the Crimeans who did not participate in this farce, despite serious pressure they were subjected to. They were threatened, forced, called to the so-called polling stations with gifts. But their silent protest eloquently testified — Crimea is Ukraine!

Neither the fixed "voting turnout" nor the made up "result" correspond to the real activity of the inhabitants of the peninsula. Published official "data" is nothing more than falsification. And speaking with the famous Russian idiom, this is a worthless piece of paper. Kremlin will now use it in the hybrid information warfare that it conducts not only against Ukraine but also against the whole world.

The Ukrainian Crimea in the chains of Russian occupation has turned into a peninsula of non-freedom and a military base.

We will intensify our efforts, including in the framework of international organizations and judicial authorities, in order to put an end to the gross violation of the human rights by the occupying authorities in Crimea. Ukraine will continue to fight for the release of all Ukrainian political prisoners who are behind bars on the peninsula and in Russia.

We have to make a list of those who planned, promoted, organized, campaigned or participated in the prudent electoral process in Crimea and present it to strengthen sanctions against the occupying Russian authorities.

The legitimacy of the presidential elections in Russia and the allegedly elected candidate is questioned not only by the unlawful conduct of voting in the temporarily occupied Crimea. It was, in general, a political farce that has nothing to do with elections in the democratic sense of this process. It was a choice without choice, without real political competition, without freedom of speech, without equal opportunities.

And we call on international partners to increase the sanctions pressure on the Kremlin. And not only for the aggression against Ukraine, but also for the hybrid war against the whole European and Euro-Atlantic community, for political assassinations abroad and for suppressing of democracy in Russia itself.

By joint efforts, our unity and international solidarity, we will ensure the de-occupation of Crimea, the restoration of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and respect for international law!